



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Masahiro OSHIKIRI

Art Unit: 2626

Application No.: 10/512,407

Filed: October 25, 2004

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CODING AND DECODING SPEECH
SIGNAL SUPERIMPOSED ON MUSIC OR ENVIRONMENTAL SOUND
(as amended)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Attached is a Japanese Office Action dated February 19, 2008 with a partial English translation thereof.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106.

Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 9, 2008

JEL/krw

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